

Find groundwater data easily on King County system

Perhaps you're thinking about buying a piece of property in rural King County and would like to know about its access to groundwater, its assessed value or whether it contains wetlands. Maybe you'd like to know how clean the drinking water is in your neighborhood. This information, and much more, is available at the click of a mouse on the King County Groundwater web site.

"The iMAP system on the groundwater web site provides quicker access to data," said Eric Ferguson from King County's Groundwater Protection Program. You can find data immediately rather than waiting for someone to send it to you. "We've been working to make it more user friendly, and we continue to add data sets."

What can you do with iMAP?

- **Create, view and print maps.**
- **Explore nine theme-based sets of map layers**, such as groundwater, stream gages (hydrographic information), drainage basins, wetlands and other sensitive areas, and noxious weed locations.
- **Conduct property searches** by parcel number or street address from within any of the countywide map sets.

The iMAP system is searchable two ways: through an interactive groundwater map or through an interactive text search. You can look up broad-brush information, such as for the entire county or the entire Redmond-Bear Creek Valley Groundwater Management Area, or specific information, sorted by parcel number or an individual well.

If you click on a specific parcel, you can find out, for example, where nearby wells are located, the property's assessed value, its zoning, drainage basin, whether it has erosion or landslide hazards, and which water, school and fire districts serve the location. If you click on a specific well, you can get information on well depth, the geology the drillers found, and how the well was constructed. You may find information on water depth or on water quality data collected.

The easiest way to find iMAP is to type "King County groundwater" in Google or another search engine. The web address is <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/groundwater>. Then click on "data."

The King County Groundwater web site also contains maps and reports on groundwater in King County, information about groundwater management areas and groundwater committees, drinking water programs and other resources.

This article has been furnished by the Redmond-Bear Creek Groundwater Protection Committee.